

RECEIVED: 09/01/2024



## **APPENDIX 2-1**

### **SCOPING RESPONSES**

## Tom Madden

---

**From:** Phoebe Duvall <planning@antaisce.org>  
**Sent:** 14 February 2023 14:57  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** Thank you for your query Re: 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Sand Quarry Scoping Exercise

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Thank you for your email. Please note that we receive a large volume of correspondence and resources are very limited. As such, we are unfortunately unable to respond to every query, and we ask that you review these [frequently asked questions](#). **If your message is a statutory referral to us per our role as a prescribed body, it will be processed as normal.**

Queries from An Taisce members are prioritised. If you are a member, please reply to the original message with your member number (if you did not include it already). If you wish to become a member, please visit [the membership page on our website](#).

Thank you very much.

--

Phoebe Duvall

*Planning and Environmental Policy Officer  
An Taisce - The National Trust for Ireland  
The Tailors' Hall, Back Lane, Dublin 8, Ireland  
Phone: 01 454 1786  
[www.antaisce.org](http://www.antaisce.org)*

Company Reg. No. 12469 | Charity Ref. No. CHY4741 | Charity Regulator No. 20006358  
An Taisce is a membership-based charity  
Join at [www.antaisce.org/membership](http://www.antaisce.org/membership)

*Please note that I work Monday through Thursday.*

--

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The Tailors' Hall, Back Lane, Dublin 8, Ireland  
Company Reg. No. 12469 | Charity Ref. No. CHY4741 | Charity Regulator No. 20006358  
An Taisce is a membership-based charity  
Join at [www.antaisce.org/membership](http://www.antaisce.org/membership)

## Tom Madden

---

**From:** IWT Info <info@iwt.ie>  
**Sent:** 15 February 2023 13:30  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** Re: 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

RECEIVED: 09/01/2024

Dear Tom,

Thank you for contacting us. We do not have the staff capacity to respond to this consultation at the moment but we will endeavour to respond if possible.

Kind regards,  
Fabiola Vieira

On Tue, 14 Feb 2023 at 15:35, Tom Madden <[tmadden@mkofireland.ie](mailto:tmadden@mkofireland.ie)> wrote:

To whom it may concern,

MKO has been engaged to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the proposed sand extraction quarry at Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway. The subject site is located approximately 8.6km to the north-east of the town of Tuam in Co. Galway

and 4.7km west of the village of Clonberne.

Newtown Farming Ltd intend to apply for planning permission to Galway County Council for a proposed sand quarry. The details of the Proposed Development are outlined in the attached scoping document and cover letter.

If you have any questions, queries or comments in relation to the attached, please do not hesitate to get back to me. Any comments would be welcomed.

Kind Regards,

Tom.

**Tom Madden**

Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84



Offices in Galway and Dublin

[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611

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Irish Wildlife Trust, 8 Cabra Road, Dublin 7, D07T1W2

Registered Charity (CRA) Number: 20010966

Facebook: IrishWildlifeTrust

Twitter: @irishwildlife

Phone: 01 445 7259 (landline available Wednesday-Thursday 9:30 to 5pm)



**Tom Madden**

---

**From:** info <info@fisheriesireland.ie>  
**Sent:** 14 February 2023 15:36  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

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Dear sender,

Thank you for your contact.

This email address is monitored by the reception desk in Citywest and your email will be forwarded to the most appropriate staff member for follow-up.

You can expect an acknowledgement of your email within 5 working days (as per [IFI's Customer Charter](#)).

Kind regards

Customer Service

Inland Fisheries Ireland

## Tom Madden

---

**From:** MKO-Admin  
**Sent:** 21 March 2023 12:19  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** FW: EIS 23/50 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise, Tuam, Co Galway  
**Attachments:** GSI datasets relevant to EIA & SEA\_20210421.pdf; 23\_50 Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Co Galway.pdf

RECEIVED: 09/01/2024

Kind regards,  
Olivia

**Olivia Coen**  
Receptionist

---

### MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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**From:** Clare Glanville <Clare.Glanville@decc.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** 21 March 2023 11:35  
**To:** MKO-Admin <info@mkoireland.ie>  
**Cc:** GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@gsi.ie>  
**Subject:** FW: EIS 23/50 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise, Tuam, Co Galway

You don't often get email from [clare.glanville@decc.gov.ie](mailto:clare.glanville@decc.gov.ie). [Learn why this is important](#)

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Mr. Madden

With reference to your email received on the 14 February 2023, concerning the EIA Scoping Document for Proposed Sand Quarry, Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway, please find attached response and dataset sheet from Geological Survey Ireland.

If you have any further queries or if we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me Clare Glanville, or my colleague Trish Smullen at [GSIPlanning@gsi.ie](mailto:GSIPlanning@gsi.ie).

Yours sincerely,

Clare Glanville



**Dr Clare Glanville** Senior Geologist **Geoheritage & Planning.**

**Geological Survey Ireland**, Booterstown Hall, Booterstown Ave., Blackrock, Dublin A94 N2R6, Ireland. **T** +353 (0)1 678 2000 **E** [clare.glanville@DECC.gov.ie](mailto:clare.glanville@DECC.gov.ie) [www.gsi.ie](http://www.gsi.ie)

*A division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.*

RECEIVED: 09/01/2024

---

**From:** Tom Madden  
**Sent:** Tuesday 14 February 2023 15:31  
**To:** John Butler  
**Subject:** 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Butler,

MKO has been engaged to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the proposed sand extraction quarry at Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway. The subject site is located approximately 8.6km to the north-east of the town of Tuam in Co. Galway and 4.7km west of the village of Clonberne.

Newtown Farming Ltd intend to apply for planning permission to Galway County Council for a proposed sand quarry. The details of the Proposed Development are outlined in the attached scoping document and cover letter.

If you have any questions, queries or comments in relation to the attached, please do not hesitate to get back to me. Any comments would be welcomed.

Kind Regards,  
Tom.

**Tom Madden**  
Environmental Scientist

---

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar sheol an teachtaireacht ar an eolas láithreach. Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aims odh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.

## Tom Madden

---

**From:** Roads <roads@GalwayCoCo.ie>  
**Sent:** 14 February 2023 16:34  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Cc:** Paul Connolly  
**Subject:** FW: 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise  
**Attachments:** Lomaunaghbaun EIA SD F - 2023.02.09 - 211034 Reduced Size.pdf; Roads and Transport Unit GCC Scoping Letter.pdf

RECEIVED: 09/01/2024

Thank you for your correspondence.

This has been forwarded to Local Area Engineer in Tuam for their attention.

Regards,  
**Patricia Delaney**  
**Infrastructure & Operations**  
**Tel (091) 509370**

"This e-mail and any attachment contains information which is private and confidential and is intended for the addressee only. If you are not an addressee, you are not authorised to read, copy or use the e-mail or any attachment. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and then destroy it."

---

**From:** Tom Madden <tmadden@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 14 February 2023 15:50  
**To:** Roads <roads@GalwayCoCo.ie>  
**Subject:** 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

To whom it may concern,

MKO has been engaged to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the proposed sand extraction quarry at Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway. The subject site is located approximately 8.6km to the north-east of the town of Tuam in Co. Galway and 4.7km west of the village of Clonberne.

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If you have any questions, queries or comments in relation to the attached, please do not hesitate to get back to me. Any comments would be welcomed.

Kind Regards,  
Tom.

**Tom Madden**  
Environmental Scientist

---

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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## Tom Madden

---

**From:** Customer Services <customerservices@galwaycoco.ie>  
**Sent:** 15 February 2023 11:43  
**To:** Tom Madden; Customer Services  
**Subject:** RE: 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

A chara

Go raibh maith agat as ucht do theachtaireacht

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your email below and to inform you that I have forwarded same to the Planning section for their attention and direct reply.

Le gach dea-ghuí

Sally

Seirbhísí Custaiméara | Customer Services  
Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe | Galway County Council  
Áras an Chontae, Cnoc na Radharc, Gaillimh H91 H6KX

☎: 091-509000 | ✉: [customerservices@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:customerservices@galwaycoco.ie) | [gaeilge@cocogaillimh.ie](mailto:gaeilge@cocogaillimh.ie)

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---

**From:** Tom Madden <tmadden@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 14 February 2023 15:49  
**To:** Customer Services <customerservices@galwaycoco.ie>  
**Subject:** 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

To whom it may concern

MKO has been engaged to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the proposed sand extraction quarry at Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway. The subject site is located approximately 8.6km to the north-east of the town of Tuam in Co. Galway and 4.7km west of the village of Clonberne.

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If you have any questions, queries or comments in relation to the attached, please do not hesitate to get back to me. Any comments would be welcomed.

Kind Regards,  
Tom.

**Tom Madden**  
Environmental Scientist

---

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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## Tom Madden

---

**From:** Environment <environment@GalwayCoCo.ie>  
**Sent:** 14 February 2023 15:58  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** RE: 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

RECEIVED: 09/01/2024

Received and forwarded to our enforcement teams for their attention.

Best regards,

Environment Section, Galway County Council

Environment Section, Prospect Hill, Galway.



[www.galway.ie](http://www.galway.ie)



[www.facebook.com/GalwayCounty](https://www.facebook.com/GalwayCounty)



[www.twitter.com/GalwayCounty](https://www.twitter.com/GalwayCounty)



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council

---

**From:** Tom Madden <tmadden@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 14 February 2023 15:41  
**To:** Environment <environment@GalwayCoCo.ie>  
**Subject:** 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

To whom it may concern,

MKO has been engaged to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the proposed sand extraction quarry at Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway. The subject site is located approximately 8.6km to the north-east of the town of Tuam in Co. Galway and 4.7km west of the village of Clonberne.

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Kind Regards,  
Tom.

**Tom Madden**  
Environmental Scientist

---

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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## Tom Madden

---

**From:** Transport GCU <GeneralCo-OrdinationUnit@transport.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** 07 March 2023 10:07  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** RE: 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

You don't often get email from generalco-ordinationunit@transport.gov.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good morning Tom,

Thank you for contacting Department of Transport in relation to the Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise.

The department has no comment to make at this point in time.

However, it would be appreciated if you could keep the department informed of any future developments in relation to this project.

Kind regards  
Jacqui

**Jacqui Traynor**  
*Central Policy, Coordination and Reform*  
**An Roinn Iompair**  
*Department of Transport*  
Lána Liosain, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 TR60  
Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60  
T +353 (0)1 604 1177  
[gcu@transport.gov.ie](mailto:gcu@transport.gov.ie) [www.gov.ie/transport](http://www.gov.ie/transport)

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**From:** Tom Madden <tmadden@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 14 February 2023 15:26  
**To:** Jacqui Traynor (Transport) <Jacqui.Traynor@transport.gov.ie>; Transport Department of Transport <info@transport.gov.ie>  
**Subject:** 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

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Hi there,

MKO has been engaged to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the proposed sand extraction quarry at Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway. The subject site is located approximately 8.6km to the north-east of the town of Tuam in Co. Galway and 4.7km west of the village of Clonberne.

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If you have any questions, queries or comments in relation to the attached, please do not hesitate to get back to me. Any comments would be welcomed.

Kind Regards,  
Tom.

**Tom Madden**  
Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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**Tom Madden**

---

**From:** Transport Department of Transport <info@transport.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** 14 February 2023 15:28  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

THIS IS AN AUTOMATIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF YOUR EMAIL. PLEASE *DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL AS REPLIES TO AUTO ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS WILL REMAIN UNANSWERED.*

Dear Customer,

Thank you for contacting The Department of Transport Customer Services Unit.

We have received your message and the division or staff member that is dealing with your query will provide a full reply within 12 working days in the majority of cases.

In the meantime if you need an answer sooner, you can find answers to most queries on our website, [www.gov.ie/transport](http://www.gov.ie/transport)

Regards,

Customer Services

Department of Transport

Is seo uath-admháil go bhfuarthas do ríomhphoist. Ná freagraíonn leis an roimhphoist seo más é do thoil é mar fanfaidh freagraí leis na uath-admhálacha gan freagairt.

Chustaiméir, a chara,

Go raibh maith agat as teagmháil a dhéanamh leis an t-aonad um Sheirbhísí do Chustaiméirí sa Roinn Iompair.

Tá do theachtaireacht faighte againn agus beidh an rannán nó don bhall foirne a bheidh ag déileáil le do cheist ag cur freagra iomlán ar fáil laistigh de 12 lá oibre i bhformhór na gcásanna.

Idir an dá linn más gá duit freagra a fháil níos túisce, is féidir leat freagraí den chuid is mó de na ceisteanna a fháil ar ár suíomh gréasáin, [www.gov.ie/transport](http://www.gov.ie/transport)

Le meas,

Seirbhísí Custaiméirí

An Roinn Iompair

\*\*\*\*\*

Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún agus b'fhéidir go mbeadh ábhar rúnda nó pribhléideach ann. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Tá cosc ar rochtain don teachtaireacht leictreonach seo do aon duine eile. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo agus b'fhéidir d'fhéadfadh bheith mídhleathach.

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\*\*\*\*\*

## Tom Madden

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**From:** Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** 15 March 2023 13:15  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** Your Ref: 211034 Our Ref: G Pre00042/2023  
**Attachments:** G Pre00042 2023 211034.pdf

RECEIVED: 09/01/2024

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A chara

Please find attached Nature Conservation observations/recommendations for the above mentioned Pre-planning application.

You are requested to send any further communications to this Department's Development Applications Unit (DAU) at: [manager.dau@npws.gov.ie](mailto:manager.dau@npws.gov.ie)

Kind regards,

-----  
**Edel Griffin**

*Executive Officer*

**An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht**

*Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage*

**Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt**

*Development Applications Unit*

**Oifigi an Rialtais**

*Government Offices*

**Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman, Y35 AP90**

*Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford, Y35 AP90*

## Tom Madden

---

**From:** CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** 14 February 2023 16:16  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Cc:** CorporateSupport.Unit; Planning Notifications  
**Subject:** RE: 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise  
**Attachments:** 20230214 Dept of Environment Scoping Letter.pdf; 20230214 Lomaunaghbaun EIA SD F - 2023.02.09 - 211034 Reduced Size.pdf

RECEIVED: 09/01/2024

Dear Tom,

Please be advised that the contact email address for the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications where this Department is a statutory consultee for Planning/EIA/EIS/SEA and NIS notifications has **changed**.

The new contact email address from Tuesday 2 August 2022 is [PlanningNotifications@decc.gov.ie](mailto:PlanningNotifications@decc.gov.ie)

Hard copies can be sent to :

**Planning Advisory**  
**Department of Environment, Climate and Communications,**  
**Third Floor,**  
**29 – 31 Adelaide Road,**  
**Dublin 2**  
**D02 X285**

Please remove [CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie](mailto:CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie) for correspondence on this subject and replace it with [PlanningNotifications@decc.gov.ie](mailto:PlanningNotifications@decc.gov.ie)

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Enda Brady,  
*Corporate Support Unit,*

---

**An Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide**  
*Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications*

**Teach Leamháin, Bóthar Ghleann an Iarla, An Cabhán, H12 A8H7**  
*Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan, H12 A8H7*

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M +35387 623 7714 T +353 (0)1 6782308  
[CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie](mailto:CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie) [www.gov.ie/decc](http://www.gov.ie/decc)

---

**From:** Tom Madden <tmadden@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 14 February 2023 15:24  
**To:** CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>  
**Subject:** 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.



To whom it may concern,

MKO has been engaged to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the proposed sand extraction quarry at Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway. The subject site is located approximately 8.6km to the north-east of the town of Tuam in Co. Galway and 4.7km west of the village of Clonberne.

Newtown Farming Ltd intend to apply for planning permission to Galway County Council for a proposed sand quarry. The details of the Proposed Development are outlined in the attached scoping document and cover letter.

If you have any questions, queries or comments in relation to the attached, please do not hesitate to get back to me. Any comments would be welcomed.

Kind Regards,  
Tom.

**Tom Madden**  
Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar sheol an teachtaireacht ar an eolas láithreach. Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aims odh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.

## Tom Madden

---

**From:** Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** 16 February 2023 10:16  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** RE: Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

You don't often get email from manager.dau@npws.gov.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Our Ref: G Pre00042/2023 (Please quote in all related correspondence)

A Chara

I acknowledge receipt of your recent consultation.

In the event of observations, you will receive a co-ordinated heritage-related response by email from Development Applications Unit (DAU).

The normal target turnaround for pre-planning and other general consultations is six weeks from date of receipt. In relation to general consultations from public bodies under the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 to 2011, the Department endeavours to meet deadline dates, where requested.

If you have not heard from DAU and wish to receive an update, please email manager.dau@npws.gov.ie.

Regards

-----  
**Edel Griffin**  
*Executive Officer*

**An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta**  
*Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage*  
**Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt**  
*Development Applications Unit*  
**Oifigi an Rialtais**  
*Government Offices*  
**Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman, Y35 AP90**  
Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford, Y35 AP90

---

**From:** Tom Madden <tmadden@mkofireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 14 February 2023 15:28  
**To:** Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>  
**Subject:** Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

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To whom it may concern,

MKO has been engaged to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the proposed sand extraction quarry at Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway. The subject site is located approximately 8.6km to the north-east of the town of Tuam in Co. Galway and 4.7km west of the village of Clonberne.

Newtown Farming Ltd intend to apply for planning permission to Galway County Council for a proposed sand quarry. The details of the Proposed Development are outlined in the attached scoping document and cover letter.

If you have any questions, queries or comments in relation to the attached, please do not hesitate to get back to me. Any comments would be welcomed.

Kind Regards,  
Tom.

**Tom Madden**  
Environmental Scientist

---

**MKO**  
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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## Tom Madden

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**From:** info@birdwatchireland.ie  
**Sent:** 14 February 2023 15:19  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

Thank you for your email. Please note that we receive a high volume of emails. We endeavour to respond as quickly as possible, but during busy periods please note that there may be a delay.

Many thanks for your patience,  
The BirdWatch Ireland team

## Tom Madden

---

**From:** MKO-Admin  
**Sent:** 24 February 2023 10:41  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** FW: TII23-121998 - Proposed Sand Quarry, Lomaunaghbaun Tuam Galway

RECEIVED: 09/01/2024

Kind regards,  
Olivia

**Olivia Coen**  
Receptionist

---

### MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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**From:** INFO <Information@tii.ie>  
**Sent:** 24 February 2023 10:26  
**To:** MKO-Admin <info@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** TII23-121998 - Proposed Sand Quarry, Lomaunaghbaun Tuam Galway

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Mr. Madden,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of 14 February 2023, relating to the above EIAR Scoping exercise.

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) will endeavour to consider and respond to planning applications referred to it given its status and duties as a statutory consultee under the Planning Acts. The approach to be adopted by TII in making such submissions or comments will seek to uphold official policy and guidelines as outlined in the Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DoECLG, 2012). Regard should also be had to other relevant guidance available at [www.tii.ie](http://www.tii.ie).

The issuing of this correspondence is provided as best practice guidance only and does not prejudice TII's statutory right to make any observations, requests for further information, objections or appeals following the examination of any valid planning application referred.

With respect to EIAR scoping issues, the recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of an EIAR, which may affect the National Roads Network.

The developer/scheme promoter should have regard, inter alia, to the following;

- Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office with regard to locations of existing and future national road schemes,
- TII would be specifically concerned as to potential significant impacts the development would have on the national road network (and junctions with national roads) in the proximity of the proposed development; N83, national road, and associated junctions,
- The developer should assess visual impacts from existing national roads,
- The developer should have regard to any Environmental Impact Statement and all conditions and/or modifications imposed by An Bord Pleanála regarding road schemes in the area. The developer should in particular have regard to any potential cumulative impacts,
- The developer, in preparing EIAR, should have regard to TII Publications (formerly DMRB and the Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works),
- The developer, in preparing EIAR, should have regard to TII's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, including the Guidelines for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes (National Roads Authority, 2006),
- The EIAR/EIS should consider the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 (SI 140 of 2006) and, in particular, how the development will affect future action plans by the relevant competent authority. The developer may need to consider the incorporation of noise barriers to reduce noise impacts (see Guidelines for the Treatment of Noise and Vibration in National Road Schemes (1st Rev., National Roads Authority, 2004)),
- It would be important that, where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment be carried out in accordance with relevant guidelines, noting traffic volumes attending the site and traffic routes to/from the site with reference to impacts on the national road network and junctions of lower category roads with national roads. While it is noted that the EIAR Scoping Report makes reference to the use of the IHT Guidelines for Traffic Impact Assessment, in relation to national roads, the Authority's Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (2014) should be referred to. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of the NRA/TII TTA Guidelines which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA. Any improvements required to facilitate development should be identified. It will be the responsibility of the developer to pay for the costs of any improvements to national roads to facilitate the private development proposed as TII will not be responsible for such costs,
- The designers are asked to consult TII Publications to determine whether a Road Safety Audit is required,
- In the interests of maintaining the safety and standard of the national road network, the EIAR should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network.
- TII recommends that that applicant/developer should clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. Where abnormal 'weight' loads are proposed, separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route and all structures on the haul route through all the relevant County Council administrative areas should be checked by the applicant/developer to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal 'weight' load proposed.

Notwithstanding, any of the above, the developer should be aware that this list is non-exhaustive, thus site and development specific issues should be addressed in accordance with best practise.

I trust that the above comments are of use in your EIAR preparation.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond Foley  
Regulatory & Administration Unit



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In accordance with TII's Right to Disconnect policy, if you are receiving this email outside of normal working hours, I do not expect a response or action outside of your own working hours unless it is clearly noted as requiring urgent attention.

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## Tom Madden

---

**From:** Info Opw <info@opw.ie>  
**Sent:** 14 February 2023 15:37  
**To:** Tom Madden  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: 211034 - Lomaunaghbaun Quarry Scoping Exercise

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Thank you for your email to the Office of Public Works.  
Your query has been forwarded to the relevant section within the OPW for direct reply.  
If you do not receive a response within 20 working days, please email this address again for further assistance.

All Media queries should be emailed to [pressoffice@opw.ie](mailto:pressoffice@opw.ie)

This is an automated response. Please do not respond to this email.

Go raibh maith agat as an ríomhphost uait chuig Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí.  
Seoladh do cheist chuig an rannóg chuí taobh istigh den OPW a thabharfaidh freagra díreach duit.  
Sa chás nach bhgaigheann tú freagra taobh istigh de 20 lá oibre, seol ríomhphost chuig an seoladh seo arís le do thoil, chun cúnamh breise a fháil.

Ba chóir ceisteanna meáin a sheoladh trí ríomhphost chuig [pressoffice@opw.ie](mailto:pressoffice@opw.ie)

Is freagra uathoibrithe é seo. Ná seol freagra ar an ríomhphost seo le do thoil.

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### Communications

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**Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí**  
Office of Public Works

**Sráid Jonathan Swift, Baile Átha Troim, Co na Mí, C15 NX36**  
Jonathan Swift Street, Trim, Co Meath, C15 NX36

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T +353 46 942 6000  
<https://gov.ie/opw>

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**An tSeirbhís Sláinte Comhshaoil**  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,  
Páirc Ghnó na Gaillimhe, An Daingean, Gaillimh, H91 EW40  
T: (091) 737350  
R: [PEHO.galway@hse.ie](mailto:PEHO.galway@hse.ie)

**Environmental Health Service**  
Health Service Executive,  
Galway Business Park, Dangan, Galway H91 EW40  
T: (091) 737350  
E: [PEHO.galway@hse.ie](mailto:PEHO.galway@hse.ie)

## **HSE EIA Scoping**

### **Environmental Health Service Submission Report**

**Date:** 07/03/2023

**Our reference:** EHIS 3043

**Report to:** Tom Madden <[tmadden@mkoireland.ie](mailto:tmadden@mkoireland.ie)>, MKO Planning  
and Environmental Consultants, Tuam Road, Galway  
Ireland, H91 VW84

**Type of Consultation:** EIA Scoping Application for proposed

**Proposed development:** Request for Scoping Opinion on Newtown Farming  
Ltd Project Title: Proposed Sand Quarry, Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co.  
Galway

**Details of the application were circulated to the following HSE stakeholders  
on Wednesday 15 February 2023.**

- **Emergency Planning – Kay Kennington**
- **Estates – Helen Maher/Stephen Murphy**
- **Director of National Health Protection – Eamonn O' Moore**
- **CHO – Breda Crehan-Roche**

### **Introduction and Proposed site location**

The applicant for the proposed development is Newtown Farming Ltd. They have extensive experience within the quarry and extractive industries. The subject site is located approximately 8.6km to the north-east of the town of Tuam in Co. Galway and 4.7km west of the village of Clonberne as outlined in Figure 2-1 in the scoping report provided by MKO. The site is accessible via the L2232 local road which runs in a north-south direction adjacent to the site's eastern boundary. This local road provides connectivity to the R328 which is located approximately 3.9km to the north and 6.5km to the south respectively. The surrounding area comprises



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mostly of one-off houses farmsteads and quarries. The land use in the local area is primarily agricultural.

Current land-use on the subject site is comprised of agricultural pastureland. Agricultural lands bound the site to the north, west and south and the local L2232 road runs adjacent to the site's eastern boundary. The landscape in which the site is located is undulating in nature, with eskers running in a generally north-south direction.

### **Site Visit**

A site visit was undertaken by Senior Environmental Health Officer Niamh Kelly on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023. Notes from her visit are enclosed throughout this scoping request.

### **General Scoping Introduction**

The following documents should be taken into consideration when preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment Report:

- Guidelines on the information to be contained in EIS (2002), 187kb
- Advice Notes on Current Practice in the preparation of EIS (2003), 435kb
- Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment

[https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidelines\\_for\\_planning\\_authorities\\_and\\_an\\_bord\\_pleanála\\_on\\_carrying\\_out\\_eia\\_-\\_august\\_2018.pdf](https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidelines_for_planning_authorities_and_an_bord_pleanála_on_carrying_out_eia_-_august_2018.pdf)

EU publication: Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects - Guidance on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, EU, 2017

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/pdf/EIA\\_guidance\\_EIA\\_report\\_final.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/pdf/EIA_guidance_EIA_report_final.pdf)

Adoption of the Directive (2014/52/EU) in April 2014 initiated a review of the above guidelines. The draft new guidelines can be seen at:

<http://www.epa.ie/pubs/consultation/reviewofdrafteisguidelinesadvicenotes>

**Generally the Environmental Impact Assessment should examine all likely significant impacts and provide the following information for each:**

- a) Description of the receiving environment
- b) The nature and scale of the impact
- c) An assessment of the significance of the impact
- d) Proposed mitigation measures
- e) Residual impacts



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Directive 2014/52/EU has an enhanced requirement to assess likely significant impacts on Population and Human Health. It is the experience of the Environmental Health Service (EHS) that impacts on human health are often inadequately assessed in EIAs in Ireland. It is recommended that the wider determinants of health and wellbeing are considered in a proportionate manner when considering the EIA. Guidance on wider determinants of health can be found at [www.publichealth.ie](http://www.publichealth.ie)

In addition to any likely significant negative impacts from the proposed development, any positive likely significant impacts should also be assessed.

**The Environmental Health Service (EHS) recommends that the following matters are included and assessed in the EIAR:**

- Public Consultation
- Population and Human Health
- Water (Hydrology and Hydrogeology)
- Land and Soils
- Air, Dust and Odour
- Climate Change and Opportunity for Health Gain
- Noise and Vibration
- Waste Management
- Ancillary Facilities
- Cumulative Impacts

**Public Consultation**

The applicant should consider the appointment of a community liaison officer. Early and meaningful public consultation with the local community should be carried out to ensure all potentially significant impacts have been adequately addressed. All parties affected by the proposed development, including those who may benefit financially from the project, must be fully informed of what the proposal entails especially with regard to potential impacts on surrounding areas. Sensitive receptors and other stake-holders should be identified to ensure all necessary and appropriate mitigation measures are put in place to avoid any complaints about the proposed Quarry development in the future. With the lifting of restrictions around public gatherings as a result of Covid 19 prevention measures there should be no barrier to holding public consultation events albeit within current government guidance at the time. Meaningful public consultation, where the local community is fully informed of the proposed development must be undertaken. Members of the public should be given sufficient opportunities to express their views on the proposed development.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) should clearly demonstrate the link between public consultations and how those consultations have influenced



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the decision-making process in the EIA. To assist with the consultation and planning process it is recommended that the applicant develops a dedicated website for the proposed development. All correspondence, maps, project updates and documentation including the EIAR should be uploaded to the website. The EIAR should state the period of planning permission sought, the length of time construction is estimated to take, and if it is anticipated that the development will be decommissioned /land remediation or will continue to operate (following any further planning consent) at the end of this period of planning permission (should permission be granted).

### **Decommissioning /site restoration**

**The submission of a Site Restoration Plan, which includes a timeframe for undertaking restoration works, and actual works detail is included as a condition of planning permission, if granted.**

**To minimise the risk of future water safety issues, consideration be given to an alternative restoration plan for the quarry void involving filling the void and restoring it to agricultural use or as a public amenity.**

### **Assessment of Consideration of Alternatives**

The EIAR should consider an assessment of alternatives should be assessed as part of the EIAR.

### **Noise & Vibration**

The potential impacts for noise and vibration from the proposed development on all noise sensitive locations must be clearly identified in the EIAR. The EIAR must also consider the appropriateness and effectiveness of all proposed mitigation measures to minimise noise and vibration. A baseline noise monitoring survey should be undertaken to establish the existing background noise levels. Noise from any existing industry /quarries or any potential sources in the area should not be included as part of the back ground levels.

In addition, an assessment of the predicted noise impacts during the construction phase and the operational phase of the proposed Quarry development must be undertaken which details the change in the noise environment resulting from the proposed development.



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## Air Quality

Due to the nature of the proposed construction works, generation of airborne dust has the potential to have significant impacts on sensitive receptors. A

**Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)** should be included in the EIAR which details dust control and mitigation measures.

Measures should include:

- Sweeping of hard road surfaces
- Provision of a water bowser on site, regular spraying of haul roads
- Wheel washing facilities at site exit
- Restrict speed on site
- Provide covers to all delivery trucks to minimise dust generation
- Inspect and clean public roads in the vicinity if necessary
- Material stockpiling provided with adequate protection from the wind
- Dust monitoring at the site boundary
- Truck inspection and maintenance plan
- Details of a road maintenance agreement between the operator and the Local Roads Authority to clarify responsibility for the upkeep and repair of access roads during the construction phase of the project .

## Surface and Ground Water Quality

The proposed development has the potential to have a significant impact on the quality of both surface and ground water.

All drinking water sources, both surface and ground water, must be identified. Public and Group Water Scheme sources and supplies should be identified in addition to any private wells supplying potable water to houses in the vicinity of the proposed development. Measures to ensure that all sources and supplies are protected should be described.

The Environmental Health Service recommends that a walk-over survey of the site is undertaken in addition to a desktop analysis of Geological Survey of Ireland data in order to identify the location of private wells used for drinking water purposes. Any potential significant impacts to drinking water sources should be assessed. Details of bedrock, overburden, vulnerability, groundwater flows, aquifers and catchment areas should be considered when assessing potential impacts and any proposed mitigation measures. Any impacts on surface water as a result of the construction of the underground cables should be identified and addressed in the EIAR.



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### **Ancillary Facilities**

The EIAR should include details of the location of all site office, construction compound, fuel storage depot, sanitary accommodation and canteen, wheel washing/ vehicle washing, First Aid facilities, disposal of wastewater and the provision of a potable water supply to the site canteen.

### **Cumulative Impacts**

All existing or proposed Quarries/ industry or developments/housing in the vicinity should be clearly identified in the EIAR. The impact on sensitive receptors of the proposed development combined with any other developments in the vicinity should be considered. The EIAR should include a detailed assessment of any likely significant cumulative impacts of the new proposed Quarry application.

**Eve Smith**

**Oifigeach Sláinte Comhshaoil | Environmental Health Officer  
Environment/Climate Change, Network Support Unit (NSU)**

**\* All correspondence or any queries with regard to this report including acknowledgement of this report should be forwarded to:**

Ms. Maria Horkan, Principal Environmental Health Officer, Environmental Health Service, Health Service Executive, Galway Business park, Dangan, Galway, H91 EW40



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## **HSE EIA Scoping**

### **Environmental Health Service Submission Report**

**Date:** 07/03/2023

**Our reference:** EHIS 3043

**Report to:** Tom Madden <[tmadden@mkofireland.ie](mailto:tmadden@mkofireland.ie)>, MKO Planning  
and Environmental Consultants ,Tuam Road, Galway  
Ireland, H91 VW84

A Chara

Please find attached the submission on the Request for Scoping Opinion on Newtown Farming Ltd Project Title: Proposed Sand Quarry, Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway. This submission is made by the Environmental Health Service on behalf of the Health Service Executive.

Best regards

  
pp

Maria Horkan

Principal Environmental Health Officer Galway

**Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes**  
following European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018  
(S.I. No. 296 of 2018)

Geological Survey Ireland Programme	Dataset	Relevant EIA Topic	Coverage	Description / Notes / Limitations	Link to Geological Survey Ireland map viewer
Geohazards	Landslide: National landslide database and landslide susceptibility map	Land & Soil/Climate/Landscape	National	Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a904a5981f950e9b9c5625c">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a904a5981f950e9b9c5625c</a>
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Historic)	Water	Regional	Provide information of historic flooding, both surface water and groundwater. [A lack of flooding presented in any specific location of the map only indicates that a flood has not been detected. It does not indicate that a flood cannot occur in that location at present or in the future]	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799430b086f2f9c735b1cc">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799430b086f2f9c735b1cc</a>
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Predictive)	Water	Regional	Provides information on the probability of future karst groundwater flooding (where available). [The maps do not, and are not intended to, constitute advice. Professional or specialist advice should be sought before taking, or refraining from, any action on the basis of the flood maps]	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799430b086f2f9c735b1cc">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799430b086f2f9c735b1cc</a>
Geohazards	Radon Map	Land & Soils/Air	National		<a href="http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/">http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/</a>
Geohazards	County Geological Sites as adopted by National Heritage Plan and listed in County Development Plan	Land & Soils/Landscape	Regional	All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0b2f8de2aaac3c228">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0b2f8de2aaac3c228</a>
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	National	1:100,000 scale and associated memoirs.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	Regional	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Sediments	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Geomorphology	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Physiographic units:	Land & Soils	National	Broad-scale physical landscape units mapped at 1:100,000 scale in order to be represented as a cartographic digital map at 1:250,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a20fc54877843aca107c5c62b">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a20fc54877843aca107c5c62b</a>
Geological Mapping	GeoUrban: Spatial geological data for the greater Dublin and Cork areas	Land & Soils	Regional	includes 3D models	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b79416093beb2212a850ce6&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b79416093beb2212a850ce6&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Geotechnical database	Land & Soils	National	Digitised geotechnical and Site Investigation Reports and boreholes which can be accessed through online downloads	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a2718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a2718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c</a>
Goldmine	Historical data sets including geological memoirs and 6" to 1 mile geological mapping records	Land & Soils/Water	National	available online	<a href="https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html">https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater resources (aquifers)	Water	National	Data limited to 1:100,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater recharge.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale; long term annual average recharge	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater vulnerability.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Group scheme and public supply source protection areas.	Water	National	Not all PWS / GWS have SPZ / ZOC. Check with IW / coco / NFGWS for private supplies.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater Protection Schemes	Water	National	Data is limited to scale of 1:40,000. Data does not include all of the source protection areas	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Catchment and WFD management units.	Water	National		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	karst specific data layers	water	National	For areas underlain by limestone, includes karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels (gwlevel.ie)	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Wells and Springs	Water	National	Not comprehensive, there may be unrecorded wells and springs	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater body Descriptions	Water	National	Not exhaustive; only those in designated SACs; could be other GWDTEs; for more information contact NPWS / EPA / site investigations Also, Roadmap for a Policy and Regulatory Framework for Geothermal Energy, November 2020	<a href="https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx">https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Geothermal Suitability maps	Land & Soils/Water	National		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9eae46bee08de41278b90a9916dc0b9e">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9eae46bee08de41278b90a9916dc0b9e</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	INFOMAR - Ireland's national marine mapping programme; providing key baseline data for Ireland's	Water	National		<a href="https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/">https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	CHERISH - Coastal change project (Climate, Heritage and Environments of Reefs, Islands, and Headlands)	Water	Regional		<a href="http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/">http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI).	water / Land & Soils	Regional	Currently the project is being carried out on the east coast and will be rolled out nationally	<a href="https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx">https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx</a>
Minerals	Aggregate potential	Land & Soils/Material Assets	National	Consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a material asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956</a>
Minerals	Active quarries	Land & Soils	National		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956</a>
Minerals	Historic mines	Land & Soils/Cultural Heritage	National	Inventory and Risk Classification 2009. Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Minerals Division and Geological Survey Ireland (DECC).	<a href="https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?zesting=7&amp;nothing=7&amp;lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilities_Extractive_Facilities">https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?zesting=7&amp;nothing=7&amp;lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilities_Extractive_Facilities</a>
Tellus	Geochemical data: multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754</a>
Tellus	Airborne geophysical data including radiometrics, electromagnetics and magnetics	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754</a>
Tellus	urban geochemistry mapping (Dublin SURGE project).	Land & Soils	Regional		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754</a>

**Notes:**

- The maps and data listed above are available on the Geological Survey Ireland map viewer <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx>
- Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data
- Geological Survey Ireland and Irish Concrete Federation published guidelines for the treatment of geological heritage in the extractive industry in 2008.





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Tom Madden  
MKO  
Tuam Road  
Galway

21 March 2023

**Re: EIA Scoping Document for Proposed Sand Quarry, Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway**

**Your Ref: 211034**

**Our Ref: 23/50**

Dear Tom,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and advice and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability. We recommend using these various data sets, when conducting the EIAR, SEA, planning and scoping processes. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly to 'Geological Survey Ireland'.

With reference to your email received on the 14 February 2023, concerning the EIA Scoping Document for Proposed Sand Quarry, Lomaunaghbaun, Tuam, Co. Galway, Geological Survey Ireland would encourage use of and reference to our datasets. Please find attached a list of our publicly available datasets that may be useful to the environmental assessment and planning process. We recommend that you review this list and refer to any datasets you consider relevant to your assessment. The remainder of this letter and following sections provide more detail on some of these datasets.

### **Geoheritage**

A national inventory of geoheritage sites known as County Geological Sites (CGSs) is managed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland. CGSs, as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include sites that are of national importance which have been selected as the very best examples for NHA (Natural Heritage Areas) designation. NHA designation will be completed in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). CGSs are now routinely included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#).

The audit for Co. Galway was carried out in 2019. The full report details can be found [here](#). **Our records show that there are no CGSs in the vicinity of the proposed Sand Quarry.**

Geological Survey Ireland would request that the operator might assist our geological heritage goals with the following (and ideally this would be written into the restoration / closure plan) and be included as a condition of planning as deemed appropriate by the planning authority:

1. Allowing access to quarry faces by appropriate scientists (upon request and with due regards to Health and Safety requirements) during quarrying to check for interesting new stratigraphies / relationships as they might become exposed and to establish if the quarry site is worthy of recognition post extraction and through aftercare/restoration planning.
2. If deemed appropriate in (1) above, leaving a representative section of the quarry face at the end of the quarry life or inclusion of information panels to promote the geology to the public or develop tourism or educational resources if appropriate depending on the future use of the site. Natural exposures are few, or deeply weathered, this measure would permit on-going improvement of geological knowledge of the subsurface.



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The Geoheritage Programme tries to promote a partnership between geological heritage and active quarrying, with such measures as those outlined in the 'Geological Heritage Guidelines for the Extractive Industry', which can be downloaded [here](#). This document, written in association with Irish Concrete Federation, acts as a comprehensive guide in the sustainable extraction of natural resources while preserving the geological heritage of Ireland.

### **Groundwater**

Geological Survey Ireland's [Groundwater and Geothermal Unit](#), provides advice, data and maps relating to groundwater distribution, quality and use, which is especially relevant for safe and secure drinking water supplies and healthy ecosystems.

Proposed developments need to consider any potential impact on specific groundwater abstractions and on groundwater resources in general. We recommend using the groundwater maps on our [Map viewer](#) which should include: wells; drinking water source protection areas; the national map suite - aquifer, groundwater vulnerability, groundwater recharge and subsoil permeability maps. **For areas underlain by limestone, please refer to the karst specific data layers (karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels (gwlevel.ie).** Background information is also provided in the Groundwater Body Descriptions. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data.

**The Groundwater Data Viewer indicates an aquifer classed as a 'Regionally Important Aquifer - Karstified (conduit)' underlies the proposed development. The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates the area covered is classed as 'Moderate' to 'High' Vulnerability.**

**Our records show that the proposed Sand Quarry is in the Gallagher Group Water Scheme (GWS) source protection area.**

Key to groundwater protection in general, and protection of specific drinking water supplies, is preventing ingress of runoff to the aquifer. Design of drainage will need to be cognisant of the group water scheme and the interactions between surface water and groundwater as well as run-off. Appropriate design should be undertaken by qualified and competent persons to include mitigation measures as necessary, such as SUDs or other drainage mitigation measures.

Any excavation should ensure that groundwater flow within the zones of contribution to the groundwater abstraction points is not disrupted, resulting in diminished yields. Note that there could be other groundwater abstractions in the locality for which Geological Survey Ireland has not undertaken studies, and a robust assessment should be undertaken by qualified and competent persons including a survey of all current wells and water abstractions within the vicinity.

Given the nearby drinking water sources (Group Water Scheme), the effects of any potential contamination as a result of the Sand Quarry would need to be assessed.

[GWClimate](#) is a groundwater monitoring and modelling project that aims to investigate the impact of climate change on groundwater in Ireland. This is a follow on from a previous project (GWFlood) and the data may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans. Maps and data are available on the [Map viewer](#).

Geological Survey Ireland has completed Groundwater Protection Schemes (GWPSs) in partnership with Local Authorities, and there is now national coverage of GWPS mapping. A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.

**The Groundwater Protection Response overview and link to the main reports is here: <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater/projects/protecting-drinking-water/what-is-drinking-water-protection/county-groundwater-protection-schemes/Pages/default.aspx>**

### **Geological Mapping**

Geological Survey Ireland maintains online datasets of bedrock and subsoils geological mapping that are reliable and accessible. We would encourage you to use these data which can be found [here](#), in your future assessments. Our subsoils or Quaternary maps provide information regarding the type of sediments present in the subsoils and the geomorphology of the deposits.



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Please note we have recently launched QGIS compatible bedrock (100K) and Quaternary geology map data, with instructional manuals and videos. This makes our data more accessible to general public and external stakeholders. QGIS compatible data can be found in our downloadable bedrock 100k .zip file on the [Data & Maps](#) section of our website.

### **Geohazards**

Geohazards can cause widespread damage to landscapes, wildlife, human property and human life. In Ireland, landslides, flooding and coastal erosion are the most prevalent of these hazards. We recommend that geohazards be taken into consideration, especially when developing areas where these risks are prevalent, and we encourage the use of our data when doing so.

Geological Survey Ireland has information available on landslides in Ireland via the National Landslide Database and Landslide Susceptibility Map both of which are available for viewing on our dedicated [Map Viewer](#). Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.

Geological Survey Ireland also engaged in a national project on Groundwater Flooding. The data from this project may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans, and is described in more detail under 'Groundwater' above.

### **Geochemistry of soils, surface waters and sediments**

Geological Survey Ireland provides baseline geochemistry data for Ireland as part of the Tellus programme. Baseline geochemistry data can be used to assess the chemical status of soil and water at a regional scale and to support the assessment of existing or potential impacts of human activity on environmental chemical quality. Tellus is a national-scale mapping programme which provides multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water in Ireland. At present, mapping consists of the border, western and midland regions. Data is available at <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/Geochemistry.aspx>.

### **Guideline**

The following guidelines may also be of assistance:

- Institute of Geologists of Ireland, 2013. Guidelines for the Preparation of the Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology Chapters of Geology in Environmental Impact Statements.
- [EPA, 2022](#). Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR)
- Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2004. Quarries and Ancillary Activities, Guidelines for Planning Authorities.
- Environmental Protection Agency, 2006. Environmental Management in the Extractive Industry: Non-Scheduled Minerals.
- Geological Survey of Ireland - Irish Concrete Federation, 2008. Geological Heritage Guidelines for the Extractive Industry.

### **Other Comments**

Should development go ahead, all other factors considered, Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. The data would be added to Geological Survey Ireland's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to the Geological Mapping Unit, at <mailto:GeologicalMappingInfo@gsi.ie>, 01-678 2795.

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me Clare Glanville, or my colleague Trish Smullen at [GSIPlanning@gsi.ie](mailto:GSIPlanning@gsi.ie).



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Yours sincerely,

Dr. Clare Glanville  
**Senior Geologist**  
**Geological Survey Ireland**

Trish Smullen  
**Geoheritage and Planning Programme**  
**Geological Survey Ireland**

Enc: Table - Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes.



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Your Ref: 211034  
Our Ref: G Pre00042/2023  
(Please quote in all related correspondence)

15 March 2023

MKO  
Tuam Road  
Galway  
H91 VW84

Via email: [tmadden@mkoireland.ie](mailto:tmadden@mkoireland.ie)

**Re:** Proposed Sand Quarry

A chara

I refer to correspondence received in connection with the above.

Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations of the Department under the stated heading(s).

### **Nature Conservation**

The observations here are not exhaustive, and are made without prejudice to any recommendation that may be made by this Department in the future. Data collected and surveys carried out in connection with this proposed development may raise other issues that have not been considered here.

The proposed quarry site, which is located nearby other quarried areas, is not covered by any nature conservation designations. However, consideration will have to be given to potential indirect or cumulative effects on nearby and more distant nature conservation sites. Levally Lough Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is located 2.7km to the south, and Lough Corrib SAC is approx 3km to the south-east of the proposed site. Drumbulcaun Bog proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA) is located 0.6km west of the proposed site location. The focus should be on realistic impacts arising from construction and operation of



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the quarry over its lifetime including, for example, from impacts on or emissions to surface water, groundwater or air.

The Department notes the scope of surveys outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Document. In undertaking surveys and assessments, the receiving environment should be defined to include all areas that will be impacted directly or indirectly by all parts of the project at all stages, and including any ancillary and associated works. The likely effects on sites, habitats and species should be assessed in the light of all aspects of project development and operation at the various stages.

Any necessary mitigation measures should be devised and specified in detail at the application stage, and shown in drawings, as relevant. This should include any method statements, environmental operating plans, etc., that may be required at site preparation and construction stages. It should be demonstrated, as part of any application, that mitigation measures can and will be delivered, that they will be effective in addressing and remediating the effects identified, and that any effects that could arise from mitigation measures themselves are taken into account and subjected to assessment. Similarly, full details of environmental monitoring proposals, if necessary, should be provided for review at the application stage, and should not be deferred to be developed and agreed at the post-consent stage.

The presence and potential for invasive non-native plant species at the site, and hence the potential for spread with material leaving the quarry, should be addressed in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). Any measures necessary to prevent and/or monitor the introduction or spread of such species should be specified as mitigation and implemented where necessary.

Specific reference should be made to the National Biodiversity Action Plan. Any losses of biodiversity habitat associated with this proposed development (including access roads and drainage etc.) should be mitigated and compensated for. In addition, Annex 1 habitats which occur outside the Natura 2000 network are also important in terms of biodiversity conservation. The presence of any Annex I habitats outside the network should be given due consideration as part of the consideration of biodiversity matters generally for the proposed development.



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You are requested to send any further communications to this Department's Development Applications Unit (DAU) at [manager.dau@npws.gov.ie](mailto:manager.dau@npws.gov.ie).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edel Griffin'.

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Edel Griffin  
Development Applications Unit  
Administration